

REMARKS

Applicant thanks the Examiner for the thorough consideration given the present application. Claims 1-11 are currently being prosecuted. The Examiner is respectfully requested to reconsider his rejections in view of the amendments and remarks as set forth below.

Rejection Under 35 U.S.C. § 112

Claims 2-4 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph as being indefinite. This rejection is respectfully traversed.

The Examiner states that claims 2-4 appear to contradict the limitation of “randomly arranged as to data type” in claim 1. Applicant disagrees that there is any contradiction in these claims. It should be understood from the description in the specification in the paragraph bridging pages 1 and 2 that when data is written randomly, it continues to be written in the same session as long as the same type of data is being written. However, when the data changes type, a new session is started. Thus, in claim 1 the data is written in session which are randomly arranged as to data type. That is, a particular arrangement of audio, video and text or different types of data compression schemes are arranged completely at random. Claim 2 indicates that the data written is grouped by at least one session. That is, the data which is recorded is placed in the same session until the data type changes. In view of this, Applicant submits that claims 1 and 2 are not contradictory. Claim 3 more specifically points out this arrangement by stating that each session contains the same type of data. Claim 4 discusses the lead-in area indicating the data type. Accordingly, Applicant submits that claims 2-4 are not indefinite and that this rejection is overcome.

Rejection Under 35 U.S.C. § 102

Claims 1-11 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102 as being anticipated by Okada et al. (USP 6,445,877). This rejection is respectfully traversed.

The Examiner states that Okada et al. teaches a method for reproducing a recording medium having different types of contents recorded in random order including identifying all types of data written on the recording medium, arranging and listing sessions of the data and presenting a menu screen for selecting and selectively reproducing data sessions corresponding to the selected types through the menu screen.

Applicant submits that the reference does not anticipate the present claims. First, it should be remembered that in the present invention, a new session is started when a different data type occurs. Accordingly, sessions are randomly arranged depending on the occurrence of the data type. In the method of the present invention, the various types of data written on the medium are identified. The various sessions of each data type are arranged and listed. The listing is presented in a menu screen for selecting at least one type among the identified types and then either reproducing all sessions listed under the selected type, or one or more individual sessions listed under the selected type. Thus, the present invention does not merely identify the types and arrange them in a menu, but instead provides the option of having all of the sessions reproduced which pertain to a particular selected type or individually selecting sessions within that type. Thus, as shown in Figures 4 and 5, it is possible to either select an individual session such as session number 1 as shown in Figure 4 or select the entire audio listing so that all of the sessions listed under audio are selected as shown in Fig. 5. This particular choice is not seen in the Okada et al. reference. While the reference seems to show in Figure 6 a menu having selections or movies, still pictures, etc. there does not appear to be a listing of individual sessions for each data type. In addition, the reference does not show the selective choice of reproducing all of the sessions for the type or individually selecting sessions of the type through the menu. For these reasons, Applicant submits that claim 1 is not anticipated by this reference. It is further noted that the Examiner has referred to column 2 lines 25-56, column 3 lines 46-53, column 4 lines 18-20, column 7 lines 32-64 and column 9 lines 27-36 of the reference. However, Applicant submits that these features are not disclosed in these portions of the reference.

Claim 9 is another independent claim which generally follows the features of claim 1. However, in this claim type telling information is provided rather than data type. The final paragraph of claim 9 provides the same selective reproduction of either all sessions under the selected type or individually selected sessions of the type. Applicant submits that claim 9 is also allowable based on similar arguments presented in regard to claim 1.

Claims 2-8 depend from claim 1 and claims 10 and 11 depend from claim 9. Each of these claims are considered to be allowable based on their dependency from allowable independent claims. In addition, each of these claims recite other features which make them additionally allowable. Accordingly, these claims are likewise considered to be allowable.

CONCLUSION

In view of the above amendment, it is believed that the claims clearly distinguish over the patent relied on by the Examiner. In view of this, reconsideration of the rejections and allowance of all the claims is respectfully requested.

If the Examiner has any questions concerning this application, the Examiner is requested to contact Robert F. Gnuse, Reg. No. 27,295 at the telephone number of (703) 205-8000.

If necessary, the Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies, to charge payment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 02-2448 for any

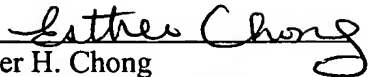

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additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.16 or under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17; particularly, extension of time fees.

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Respectfully submitted,

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